

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for transmitting data between at least one transmitter and at least one receiver comprising:

transmitting packets of data;

receiving a feedback message from a receiver, the feedback message including a bitmap block including a predetermined plural number of fields associated with corresponding said packets of data, each field of said fields representing a consecutive identifier corresponding to each packet of the transmitted packets and indicative of a state of acknowledgement of each packet of said packets; and

associating a timer with a periodic reception of the bitmap block at the transmitter;

deactivating said timer after a maximum duration, and then considering said packets associated with said bitmap block to be in said unacknowledged state by said transmitter; and
after deactivating said timer, and when at least one packet associated with said bitmap block is in said unacknowledged state, positioning at least some unacknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block in a retransmission queue.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, further comprising activating said timer, when said transmitter sends to said receiver a first of said packets having consecutive identifiers associated with said bitmap block, and switching said timer to an activated state.

Claim 3 (Canceled):

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising deactivating said timer when said transmitter receives a cumulated acknowledgement of said packets associated with said bitmap block, indicating that said packets associated with said bitmap block are in said acknowledged state.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising deactivating said timer, when said transmitter receives a feedback message including said bitmap block.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 5, further comprising, upon the transmitter receiving said feedback message, analyzing said feedback message to determine said acknowledged or unacknowledged state of each of said packets associated with said bitmap block.

Claim 7 (Canceled):

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~Claim 7~~Claim 1, further comprising:

analyzing said feedback message to determine said acknowledged or unacknowledged state and checking for a presence, in said retransmission queue, of at least one acknowledged packet associated with said bitmap block, and

when the presence in said queue of at least one acknowledged packet of said block has been confirmed, deleting said at least one of said acknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block from said retransmission queue.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~Claim 7~~Claim 1, further comprising retransmitting said packet(s) of said block positioned in said retransmission queue, and activating said timer associated with said block when a first of said packets associated with said bitmap block positioned in said queue is retransmitted.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising communicating with an ARQ (Automatic Repeat Request) protocol.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising associating a time stamp with at least some packets in said unacknowledged state.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, further comprising activating said time stamp when said transmitter sends said associated packet.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~Claim 7~~Claim 1, wherein said positioning includes sub-selecting packets to be positioned in said queue, depending on a selection criterion.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said selection criterion takes into account at least one of a value of a time stamp associated with an unacknowledged packet associated with said block and an ARQ class of said receiver.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 13, wherein said sub-selecting includes selecting an unacknowledged packet associated with said block and associated with a time stamp having a value greater than or equal to said maximum duration.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 11, wherein said positioning includes for each of said selected packets, deactivating said associated time stamp.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 9, wherein when all unacknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block have been selected in said sub-selecting, said timer takes a value $V(T)$ wherein,

$$V(T) = t(\text{activation}) + d_{\max},$$

where $t(\text{activation})$ is a current time value, and where d_{\max} is said maximum duration, wherein

the timer associated with each packet of the bitmap block positioned in said queue is activated and takes the current time value during said retransmission of said packet.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 15, wherein after deactivating said timer,

if at least one unacknowledged packet of said block, associated with said time stamp having a value of less than said predetermined maximum duration, has not been selected during said sub-selecting, activating said timer of said bitmap block, so that said timer takes a value $V(T)$:

$$V(T) = V(\text{run}) + (\text{Time stamp}(i) - \text{Time stamp}(j)),$$

where $V(\text{run})$ is the value of said timer during said timer running in said deactivated state,

Time stamp(j) is the greater value of said time stamps associated with said unacknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block selected during said sub-selecting,

and Time stamp(j) is the greater value of said time stamps associated with said unacknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block not selected during said sub-selecting.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 6, wherein after analyzing said feedback message, said method implements, for each of said acknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block, deactivating a time stamp associated with at least some packets in said unacknowledged state.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 14, wherein after deactivating said timer, if at least one unacknowledged packet of said bitmap block has not been selected during said sub-selecting depending on a decision criterion related to the ARQ class of said receiver, activating said timer of said block so that said timer takes a value V(T):

$$V(T) = V(\text{run}) + (d_{\max} - (t - \text{Time stamp}(i))),$$

where V(run) is a value of said timer during said timer running in said deactivated state,

d_{\max} is said maximum duration,

t is a current time value,

and Time stamp(i) is the greater value of said time stamps associated with said unacknowledged packets associated with said bitmap block not selected during said sub-selecting.

Claims 21-23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Canceled):

Claim 25 (Canceled):

Claim 26 (Canceled):

Claim 27 (Canceled):

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving includes receiving said feedback message including said bitmap block with every field indicating the state of acknowledgement as acknowledged.

Claim 29 (Canceled):

Claim 30 (Canceled):

Claim 31 (Canceled):

Claim 32 (Canceled):